Capital City Capers

The News Organ of the Capital City Squares
A Member Club of the IAGSDC

Spring Is Just Around the Corner!

Spring is getting ready to be sprung upon us. March, April, and May are filled with events for square dancers, all culminating in the IAGSDC Convention in Miami on Memorial Day weekend.

Spring is also a time of new beginnings. The Mainstream and Plus classes of Capital City Squares are almost finished learning all the steps of their levels. But the true learning is just beginning. Once you have learned a new square dance level, you are then free to become more comfortable with your dancing, and, more importantly, you are free to learn and explore the social aspects of square dancing. These include square dance etiquette and courtesy, how to deal tactfully with someone in the square who is less proficient than you are, and how to help make everyone in your square enjoy the experience of square dancing as much as possible.

To help you in this new beginning of learning, this commencement, I have included later in this issue the Ten Commandments of Square Dancing. At first glance they appear rather hokey or just a matter of common sense, but if looked at more closely and sincerely acted upon, they are a foundation for the future enjoyment of square dancing by all.

So at the end of your Mainstream or Plus learning experience, we hope you will keep on learning and keep on dancing.

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The CEO Speaks

Tho' perhaps (only perhaps) a touch more briefly than is his wont ...)

So much for the age of computers! After spending half a day keying this damned "column" into one PC and trying to phone it to another (Bill's), not only did this thing end up scrambled and out in the twilight zone, but since I had no hard copy, it was lost completely! So, back to the pen and pad (and the way my pens work, I'm tempted to try cuneiform on mud tablets). Anyway ... this prob'ly won't even resemble the first....

So what's cookin' in the next month? We'll get to that ... First, let me briefly address an outburst of mine which evidently rankled a few people. It seems I came across a bit too harshly over the mike a couple of weeks ago when I so rudely reminded people of their responsibilities and thereby perhaps offended a few. I apologize in advance to those to whom this does not apply; please bear with me as I somewhat long-windedly take this opportunity to explain my personal viewpoint. Most of the beginning class have been dancing since early September, some six and one half months, and have been taught most of the Mainstream calls (and all of the Basic). It is your responsibility to learn those calls. Robin and Kris have been drilling, practicing, re-teaching, and building week to week, yet there are still Mainstream and Plus class members who expect others to drag them through each and every call! The time for that is long past. Yes, you are here to have fun, but ya gotta learn the calls.

Realize, however, that I do not place all responsibility for "weaknesses" and/or "blank spots" on the beginning class:

ANGELS are not doing their job (and I include myself here!) It is the primary responsibility of the Angels to make sure all beginning dancers get the support and assistance they need. Angels are volunteers, but even volunteers have responsibilities that they should meet. Otherwise, what is the point of volunteering?

If I have stomped directly on some toes, I do apologize — but only for not stomping on all deserving toes equally! And thanks for "hearing me out."

Onward —

MARCH 16TH — Western Star Dancers is having its 9th Anniversary Dance at St. Paulus Church in S.F. Details are elsewhere in this issue. Let's get a good sized group going — WSD has been very good about supporting us. Besides, it's always so much fun!

MARCH 20TH — Wednesday — Capital City Squares and Prime 8's are co-hosting an evening of dancing to Joe Uebelacher at Wm. Land School (our usual dance place). C'mon, let's Dance!

APRIL 6TH — I's heard about another WSD Dance on this date. Last weekend I bumped into Anna Damiani (nearly knocking over two display tables at 18th & Castro in the process), she informed me this is going to be a "Oh-What-the-Hell-We-Haven't-Had-One-For-A-While-So-Let's-Have-A-BANNER-DANCE" dance with Mike DeSisto. This dance (again, at St Paulus) is a great opportunity to (a) dance to a popular caller, (b) support WSD, (c) support "Cast a Shadow in the Sun," and (d) support the IAGSDC. Gosh, all that and have fun, too! We will be sending our banner — let's get as many CCS bodies there as possible!

FIFE'S — April 19th to the 21st — The price is $65 for the weekend, and the deadline for signing up approacheth! Hurry, Hurry! After March 22nd, it'll be "space available" (but if yer a trifle delayed, don't worry — there's plenty of space and we can get more cabins as needed!). However, let us know your intentions soonest, as we have to let Fife's know very soon. Let's all go and bring friends, relatives, ever'body! As anyone who has attended can tell you, it's loads of fun.

CONVENTION — May 24th to 27th — It seems that those Florida folks have done an incredible job of making an incredible weekend of Fun, Frolic, and Dance. Mia-a-a-mi is

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March Board Minutes

March 30, 1991

The meeting slid into a semblance of order at 7:30 P.M. at Bill and Michael's house. Present were Tom Sachs, Cindy, Kris, Rich, Rick, Larry, Bob, Bill, David, George, Kenric, Mary Jo, and Bev.

First, George informed us that confirmation has been received on the rental of Coloma Center for the New Dancers Hoedown on Saturday, August 24.

We then discussed Joe Uebelacher's calling for Capital City Squares and Prime 8's on Wednesday, March 20, from 6:30 to 9:30 at William Land School. He will do alternating tips of Mainstream (Class level), Plus, and A-2 as CCS and Prime 8's are co-sponsoring. It was decided that there would be a charge of $3.00 for the dance. Dennis and Jeff will be distributing flyers.

Next, the Board discussed James Ozanich's proposal for two dances this summer. James has kindly offered to take responsibility for arranging these two dances to be held in July and August. There will be a nominal fee charged, which will be decided at a later date. The July dance will feature Dave Wilson as caller, and the August dance will feature Anne Uebelacher. The Board unanimously decided to accept James' offer and will support him in any way necessary.

Fife's was the next topic of discussion. George reported everything is going smoothly. The Board discussed fees for those who wish to dance but do not wish to stay at Fife's. It was decided that there would be a $25 flat fee for dancing for the weekend. $5 will be charged for the buffet dinner. The Board also decided to extend the deadline for reservations by one week (March 22). After the 22nd, CCS will accept reservations on a "space available" basis.

On the ever-present insurance question, the Board (Finally!) moved and 2nd to sign up for the square dancing insurance. Discussion ensured re: pros and cons, and the Board unanimously decided to opt for the insurance. David L. will fill out all the necessary forms and submit them to the broker. We should have coverage in 6 to 8 weeks.

It was then noted that elections for Board members will be coming up in April. There will be three positions open. Club members are asked to think about nominating themselves and someone else. Please see any of the Board members with nominations.

Tom Sachs presented samples of two shirts that he had ordered, and he is planning to talk with a distributor about long term availability of shirts. He will report back to the Board when he has more info. Thank you, Tom, for your diligent detective work on behalf of our shirts. There will be more shirt news to follow.

The last item on the agenda was the Club badge. Through the valiant efforts of David Cogswell, we have received a very good estimate on new badges with our new logo. The cost would be less than our current printer. Please see George or David if you have any questions or comments.

One last (but not least) item. I

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The News Organ of the Capital City Squares
P.O. Box 19986
Sacramento, CA 95819
Editor, Bill McCrory
The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily the views of the CCS Board

Class/Club Dues:
$90 a year; $10 a month
Due on the 15th of the month
Newsletter only: $12 a year

Capital City Squares
Board of Directors
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Mary Jo Semmelmayer, Secretary
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Bill McCrory, Newsletter
David Levy, Contracts
Bob Stahmer, New Class Rep.
Kris Corbridge, Plus Class Instructor
Robin Alpenglow, MS Class Instructor

Joy TeSelle & Margaret Coelho
Club History
Kenric Brown, History Liaison & Party Chairman

CEO SPEAKS!

Continued From Page Two

going to have quite a crowd come Memorial Day weekend. There's still time to register before the cost goes up. It is going to be an experience (to say the least) with lots going on before, during, and after! Go! Go! Go!!

A month or more late, but many thanks to David and Hugh for the potluck/hoedown in Stockton! It was a lot of fun and not all that cold once we got moving. Thanks! It was worth the drive!

Many, many heart-felt thanks to all those who have taken it upon themselves to not only suggest ideas but to follow up on them ... Most recently, Kris and Cindy for getting the fun badges going, David and Hugh for checking into alternate ideas on badges, and Tom for ordering catalogs and alternatives on shirts out the wazoo.

I'm sure I've missed things. Oh well, if I got everything, I'd be worried (not to mention on lots of medicines!).

I've said it before, but I'll say it again: Thanks for being here, for dancing, for helping us all have a better time. I'm glad you're here!

See ya dancin'!

❧ George

BOARD MINUTES

Continued From Page Three

and the Board wish to thank the light and love of my life, Bev, for providing us with soul food at the Board meeting (aka yummy brownies).

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M. The next Board meeting will be held at Bill and Michael's on , Wednesday, March 27.

Respectfully Submitted,

❧ Mary Jo Margaret Theresa Semmelmayer, Secretary Extraordinaire

Western Star Dancers

9th Anniversary Dance

Saturday, March 16

Featured Caller:

Paul Infanti

St. Paulus Lutheran Church
Gough & Eddy
San Francisco

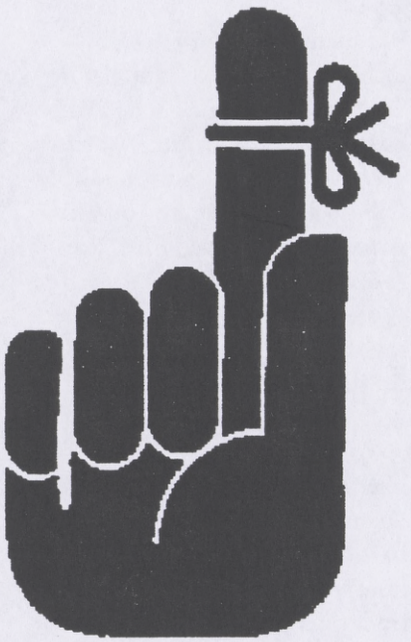
7:30–10:30

Levels: Class & Plus

Cost: $6

March Birthdays

1	Jack Grayson
2	David Canales
10	Fred Smith
12	Tom Sachs
13	Pip Reynolds
15	Karl Murray
26	George Fox
29	Joy TeSelle



Wednesday, March 20
Capital City Squares and Prime 8's
Presents Joe Uebelacher
Calling Class level Mainstream, Plus, andA-2

6:30-9:30 PM
William Land School Cost: $3

The Ten Commandments of Square Dancing

I. *Thou shalt square dance only for the fun which thou wilst find in it.*

II. *Thou shalt not be a snob, considering thyself too good to dance with any and all, sitting out the mixers, or leaving a square whose members thou deem unworthy of thy talents; for the gods of retribution are zealous gods and will visit their mischief upon thee, and thou wilst be the one to goof the square.*

III. *Thou shalt be exuberant, but shalt act thy age. Do not offend others by thy arm yanking and high kicking.*

IV. *Thou shalt go abroad and dance with other callers so that thy opinions expressed, as to the merit of this one or that one, are based truly on fact.*

V. *Thou shalt bathe diligently, that only the sweet aroma of soap may assail the nostrils of thy associates.*

VI. *Thou shalt not let the stranger in thy midst sit on the sidelines and cool his heels, nor fail to speak to him.*

VII. *Thou shalt take care that the words of thy mouth are not scented with liquor, beer, or garlic.*

VIII. *Thou shalt honor thy club and give it thy loyalty.*

IX. *Thou shalt not kill thy club with fault finding and bickering; for it would be better then to separate thyself from it and join another whose ways and members are more to thy liking.*

X. *Thou shalt not forget that thou wast once a beginner.*

Modern translation of the Seventh Commandment:

Before you square dance, DON'T DRINK. The enjoyment of others in your square depends upon you and your coordination. Be at your absolute dancing and thinking best.

What's A Prime 8?

New club members may be puzzled by references to people called Prime 8's and a vague organization called Prime 8's that sometimes joins with Capital City Squares to co-sponsor various hoedowns, pool parties, and other square dance related events. Prime 8's are people (not all of them gay) who have joined and pay dues to an organization of the same name to go beyond the Plus level of square dancing, the highest level that Capital City Squares teaches, to learn and dance the Advanced levels of square dancing, A-1 and A-2.

Prime 8's grew out of a desire several Capital City Squares members had several years ago to learn the Plus level of square dancing. At that time Capital City Squares taught only Basic and Mainstream. Later on the Plus level was incorporated into Capital City Squares' teaching program, and Prime 8's concentrated its efforts on the next highest level, Advanced. That's the division of teaching labors as it stands now. Prime 8's presently has no plans to teach any of the Challenge levels of square dancing.

At present, Prime 8's comprises 26 members, all but three of whom are also members of Capital City Squares. While Prime 8's is a member club of the International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs (as is Capital City Squares), it has no constitutional organization or by-laws. It does have a "leader," Greg Lowe, who runs the teaching tapes and helps the dancers learn the calls, and a secretary, currently Art Katz, who collects dues of $5 a month and provides an address for club mail. There is no Board of Directors.

In the past there have been a few contretemps between the two clubs, but for the past few years an era of coexistence and cooperation has existed (and we are not just talking about Greg and Tim). Communications between the clubs is facilitated by the fact that four of the members of the Board of Directors for Capital City Squares are also members of Prime 8's.

Several times a year Capital City Squares and Prime 8's will co-sponsor the appearance of a famous (and expensive) caller for hoedowns. Any such event will have all levels from Mainstream to Plus to A-1 and A-2 called by the caller. Mainstream only dancers should realize that at these co-sponsored events they won't have as many time to dance as those who dance at higher levels. The up side of all this is that new members of Capital City Squares have the chance to dance to some of the most famous and innovative callers in the world.

Now you know what and who the Prime 8's are — just another group of party animals!

❧ Bill

From on High

At any level of square dancing instruction, be it Basic or Challenge, the hardest job being performed is not that of the learner at that level; it is not even that of the caller/instructor. The hardest job to do well, the one on which the success or failure of square dance education often rests, is the job of angel. The responsibilities involved in being an angel at any level of square dance instruction is a heavy one and one that should not be taken lightly or, worse, irresponsibly.

The primary job of the angel is to facilitate the learning on the floor. There is much that a caller/instructor can not see or control from the stage. It is the angel's job to trouble shoot and if possible step in and partner a weak dancer or tone down overly boistrous dancers. The angel should communicate with the instructor about any problems he or she might see from the floor.

It is also an angel's job to set a friendly mood for learning in whatever square he or she is working in. It is sad to think of all the potential square dancers who have been turned off square dancing by a rude or condescending angel. On the other hand, an angel should try to have fun but not so that it interferes with the learning of beginning dancers.

Finally, there is a golden rule for angels: Work with new dancers in the way you wish angels had worked with you when you were a new square dancer.

❧ Bill

Coming Events

* signifies an ostensibly "straight" event

March

8–10 *Pace Weekend (Dave Stevens), Bay Area
9 Fifth Anniversary Party, Gold Rush, San Francisco
15–17 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Dave Lightly), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
16 WSD 9th Anniversary Dance (Paul Infanti), San Francisco
19 Harlan Kerr at CCS Class Night
20 Mainstream–Plus–A–2 Dance (Joe Uebelacher), CCS and Prime 8's, Sacramento
22–24 G.S.G.R.A Rodeo at the L.A. Equestrian Center in Burbank, CA

April

4–7 "Scoot Back Again" (Joe Uebelacker & Tim Crawford), Triangle Squares, Tononto
5–7 *Advanced & Challenge Spectacular (Anne Uebelacker), Napa, CA
6 WSD Banner Dance (Mike DeSisto), WSD, St Paulus Church, San Francisco
16 Harlan Kerr at CCS Class Night
19–21 10th Anniversary Celebration & Russian River Retreat (Harlan Kerr), Capital City Squares, Fife's, Guerneville
19–21 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Ed Foote), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
19–21 *California State Square Dance Convention, Stockton, CA
26–28 IGRA Zia Regional Rodeo, Albuquerque

May

3–5 Rehoboth Beach Fly–In, Chesapeake Squares, Baltimore
3–5 Spring Round Up Fly–In, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver
17–19 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Ron Libby), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
24–26 *38th Golden State Round Up, Northern CA Sq Dancers Assoc convention, Oakland, CA
24–26 IGRA Great Plains Regional Rodeo, Oklahoma City
24–27 Cast a Shadow in the Sun, 8th IAGSDC Convention, Miaaami
31–J-1 *Dynamite Weekend (Dave Stevens), TNT's, Roseville

June

8 Graduation Workshops/Potluck/Hoedown, Capital City Squares, Sacramento
14–16 Fly–In, Rosetown Ramblers, Portland
15–16 *Advanced & Challenge Dance (Jonny Preston), Promenade Dance Center, Seattle
20–22 *25th National Advanced & Challenge Square Dance Convention, Virginia Beach, VA
27–29 *40th National Square Dance Convention, Salt Lake City
30 San Francisco Gay Pride Day

July

5–7 IGRA Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo, Denver
20 MS–Plus Workshops & Dance (Dave Wilson), CCS, Cook's Barn, Orangevale, CA

August

1–4 IGRA Annual Convention and Dance Competition, Albuquerque
2–4 Geoduck Fly–In, Puddletown Squares, Seattle
16 MS–Plus Dance (Anne Uebelacher), CCS, Sacramento
23–25 English Bay Round Up & Boat Cruise, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver
24 New Square Dancers Hoedown, CCS, Coloma Center, Sacramento

September

6–8 Southern California Regional Gay Rodeo, San Diego
20–22 Leather Weekend, San Francisco
27–29 Huajatolla Showdown Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus & The Wilde Bunch, Walsenburg, CO
27–29 IRGA San Diego Chapter Rodeo, San Diego

October

18–20 IGRA Finals Rodeo, Wichita

November

8–10 Annual Fly–In, DC Lambda Squares, Washington, DC
29–D-1 Anniversary Dance & Fly–In, Squares Across the Border, Vancouver

Capital City Squares presents
A Return to the Russian River

10th Anniversary Celebration

April 19 - 21
at Fife's River Resort
Guerneville, California

Hoedowns: Friday and Saturday Nights
Workshops: Saturday
Harlan Kerr, Caller

$65.00 per person
Non-Dancers Welcome!

For Information call:
George (916) 447-2271
Bill (916) 969-5153

Name(s) ..... Number Attending .....

Address ..... Dancing Level .....

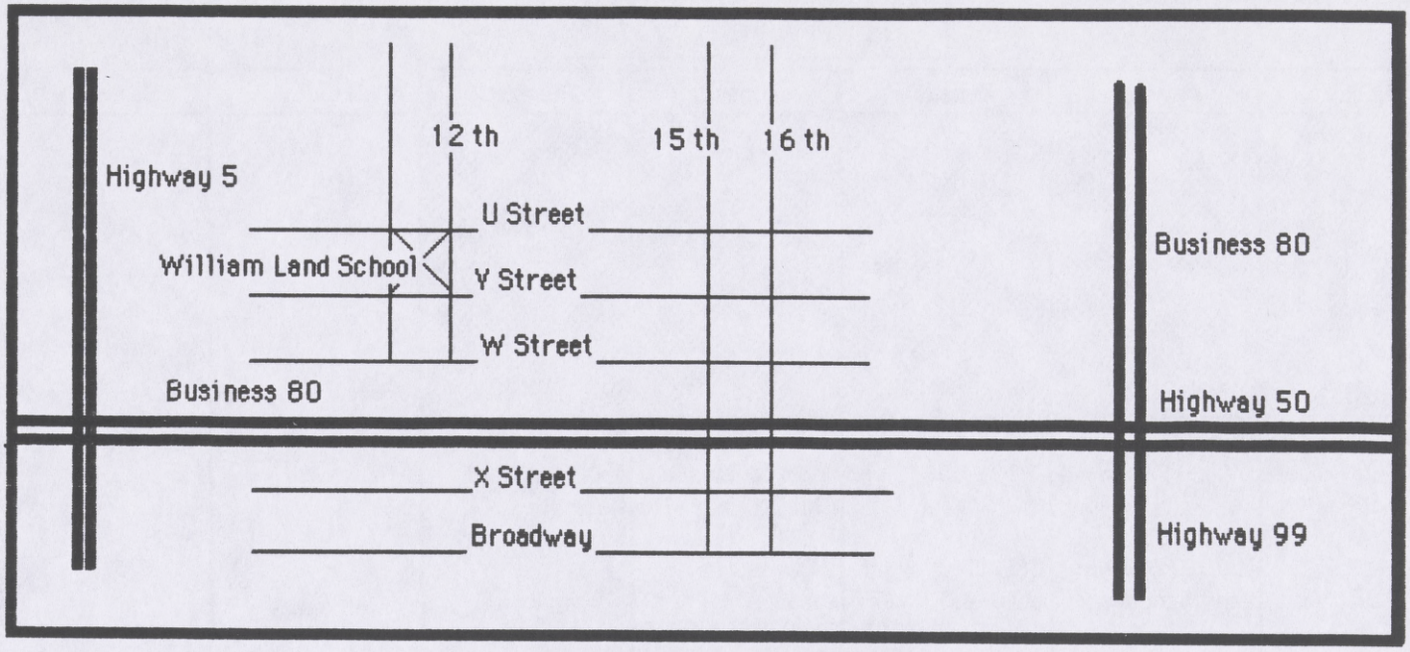
Phone ..... Club Affiliation (if any) ..... Amount Enclosed .....

Capital City SQUARES

$35 per person deposit due March 15th. Balance due April 15th.
Return to: Capital City Squares, P.O. Box 19986, Sacramento, CA 95819

March 1991

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF 3	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 4	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 5	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Basics Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF 6	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 7	8	5th Anniversary Party, Gold Rush, The Corral, SF 9
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF 10	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 11	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 12	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Basics Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF 13	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 14	15	WSD 9th Anniversary Dance 7:30-10:30 St Paulus Church SF 16
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF 17	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 18	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night Harlan Kerr 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 19	CCS Joe Uebelacher 6:30-9:30 ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Basics 20	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 21	Los Angeles Gay Rodeo 22	Los Angeles Gay Rodeo 23
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF Los Angeles Gay Rodeo 24	WSD 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF Prime 8's 7:00-9:00 Wm Land School 25	FCD Class Night 7:00-9:00 Live Oak School CCS Class Night 6:30-9:30 Wm Land School 26	ECR 7:30-9:30 St. Andrews Church Palo Alto WSD Basics Class 7:30-9:30 EVRC SF 27	TNT's C1 Class 7:00-9:00 Roseville 28	29	30
FCD Club Night 7:00-9:00 The Corral SF MS Live Oak School SF 31						



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